Number Portability facility in the mobile telephone segment shortly in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the mobile phone service providers are not enthusiastic about the plan as it involves heavy investment and diversion of funds earmarked for rural area penetration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its recommendations on "Mobile Number Portability" on 08-03-2006.

(c) and (d) These recommendations were finalized by TRAI through a consultation process. During Construction, some of the mobile operators had indicated that cost of implementation of Mobile Number Portability (MNP) would be very high and this is not appropriate time to introduce Mobile Number Portability because the operators are in the process of expansion of their network in rural areas. The TRAI's recommendations are under consideration.

Package for ITI

2125. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ITI Ltd. the first Public Sector Undertaking set up in 1948 was now in the throes of a battle for survival;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are considering to provide a package to ITI to bail out the PSU from losses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Company is passing through a severe financial crunch, leading to shortage of working capital and rapid

advancement in technology. Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has also declared the company as a sick unit.

(c) and (d) Govemment had sanctioned revival package of M/s ITI Limited during December, 2004 for providing financial assistance of Rs. 1024.77 crore towards:

Reimbursement/expenditure towards Voluntary Retirement Scheme	Rs. 558.00 crore
Payment of Provident Fund dues	Rs. 93.10 crore
Capital Expenditure	Rs. 150.00 crore
Equity Infusion	Rs. 200.00 crore
Waiver of interest/Penal interest on Government of India loan	Rs. 23.67 crore
Total:	Rs. 1024.77 crore

Faulty telephone exchanges

2126. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that telephone under Palampur-Panchrukhi Exchange remain out of order for months together despite complaints made even to senior officers;

(b) if so, the number of telephones remained out of order during the last six months with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many local officials of the Department do not pay any attention to this issue; and

(d) the details of telephone complaints received from Gander-Marera and Kotlu and Lambagaon areas during the last six months together with the steps taken to attend them with the reasons for the delay?

. THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, telephones under Palampur and Panchrukhi Exchanges under Dharmshala Switching Secondary Area (SSA) of Himachal Pradesh telecom circle are usually working